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G.O. No. 4548

Dated 22-9-47

[Despatch Abstract.]

Quirquennial Reviews of Forest Administration in India.

Development Department.

Letter No.2351C/47-8 dated 4-9-1947.

To

The Economic and Statistical Adviser,
Department of Agriculture,
New Delhi (With encl.)

Sir,

Sub:- Quinquennial Reviews of Forest Administrati
in British ~~in~~ India.
Ref:- Your letter No.1083 St/47 dated 14-4-1947.

I am directed to enclose a Summery of progress of forest Administration in the Province of Madras during the seven years 1939-40 to 1945-46.

Yours faithfully,
sd.
Secretary to Government.

Copy to Chief Conservator of Forest.

SUMMARY OF PROGRESS OF FOREST ADMINISTRATION IN THE PROVINCE OF MADRAS DURING THE SEVEN YEARS 1939-40 to 1945-46.

The following is a summary of the progress of Forest Administration in the Province of Madras during the period of seven years ending the 31st March 1946.

The World War No.II was the dominant feature of the period under report and the normal activities of the Department were influenced by it to an unprecedented extent. The supply of timber, sleepers, sawn sizes, etc., supplied on a gigantic scale was the principle contribution which the Department made towards the war effort.

2. Area of reserved forests and reserved lands: The reserved forests in the province of Madras are divided into two classes, viz., remunuerative and protective forests (class I and ryots forests (Class III). The former is under the control of the Forest department and the latter are managed by forest panchayats under the control of the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue and Settlement). The area of forests under the control of the Forest and Revenue departments at the end of 1946 was 15745 square miles and 3024 square miles. Two square miles of Class I forests were managed by departments and 5 square miles of Class III forests by the Adoni Municipality (Bellary District). of the 15745 square miles of deteriorated Class III forests transferred from Panchayats to the control of the Department for restoration. The department was also in charge of 37 square miles of reserved lands.

3. Organization: Most of the panchayat forests in Chingleput and South Arcot districts were resumed by the Forest Department under the administration of a new Forest division called Chingleput division with headquarters at Chingleput. A separate Pyrethrum division was formed with effect from 14-10-1943 for the cultivation of Pyrethrum to privide insecticides for the fighting forces. To devise measures to counteract the effects of soil erosion a soil Conservation division, with very limited staff and funds was formed with effect from 18-1-1946.

Two temporary divisions were formed one from 30-6-45 for reafforestation of the banks of the Hagari river in Bellary district and the other from 22-6-45 at Guntur for raising casuarina plantations in Guntur and Kistna districts. Sanction for the two divisions exists upon 31-3-1948.

A Special Fodder division to deal with the fodder requirements caused by acute famine in Bellary and Anantapur districts and to supply fodder to the Railways was sanctioned and worked from 9-3-1943 to 30-6-1944, ~~form~~ from 24-11-44 to 31-5-45 and again from 12-11-45 to 15-11-46. The fodder famine during 1945-46 was very acute and unprecedented. During this year, contracts were entered into for production of 12,000 tons of hay against an annual average of 3,000 tons in famine years. About 7800 tons were supplied by 31-7-46 and due to wagon difficulties, large stocks still remained for transport after 31-7-1946. The division collected and supplied hay to the military also during 1945-46.

The Madras Forest College closed in 1939 was reopened on 1st October 1945 in its old premises at Coimbatore.

of forests under the Forest Department 339 squire miles are

The requirements of the Gazetted ranks of the Forest Service were examined and the strength reduced.

The classification of the Forest divisions into "Major" and "Minor" was abolished in November 1941

The 1933 scales of pay for the various ranks of both the provincial and Subordinate services revised in 1938 (except for posts on pay of Rs.105 or less) were restored to 1933 scales in 1944.

4. Policy: The Congress Ministry resigned in September 1939 and took up the Government again in April 1946. The policy of affording increased facilities to ryots and others living in the vicinity of departmental forests was pursued. Legitimate grievances of the people were redressed and concessions allowed to the extent possible without relaxation of the essential principles of conservation. The concession of 50 per cent grazing fee ordered by the Government in 1938 continued. The percentage of area of departmental forests open to grazing continued to be large. It was 89.29 per cent in 1945-46 against 88.80 in 1938-39. Watering facilities were improved and penning was encouraged. The Provincial Fodder and Grazing Committee continued its activities. A report on grazing was propared by a Special Officer--(Mr. J.A.Wilson) and Government passed orders on it in August 1942--. Deferred and rotational forms of grazing continued in several divisions. The progress of these systems was not encouraging except in a few divisions. It is hoped that there will be greater response and tha t the systems will extend gradually over large areas when the improvement in the quality and quantity of gras in the special areas becomes obvious. In the Ceded districts affected by fodder scarcity hay was collected and supplied by the department at concessional rates. Free Grazing to hill tribes was allowed as usual. Free removal of grass in head loads also continued. Removal of dead wood was allo wed at nominal charge in certain localities. The rates for removal of green leaf manure reduced in 1942 for war time, continued. Free grants of building materials were made to the poor to rebuild their houses destroyed by fire or flood. Large areas were allotted for Kumri cultivation both in timber and fuel forests. In 1945-46 departmental kumris were undertaken in Wynaad, Nilambur South Coimbatore and South Kanara Divisions with a view to produce enough food grains which were in short supply to fee the government elephants, and a substantial quantity of 151.4 tons of food grains (114.2 tons of ragi and 38.2 tons of paddy) was obtined. Raw materials were supplied to cottage industries.

5. Amendments to the Madras Forest Act. A Bill was published in the Fort St. George Gazette in February 1944 to elicit public opinion in respect of amendments to various sections of the Madras Forest Act. Objections were received mestly in respect of the proposed amendment to Sections 29 and 30 as these affect private forests and waste lands. The matter is under the consideration of Government.

6. Development: No mechanical exploitation of the forests was done. The methods employed were, as usual, dragging by elephants, floating and carting and hand-sawing of railway sleepers in the forests and man-handling them to the plains. The only improvements wes that the use of bullock carts for transport was largely superseded by the use of motor lorries providing quicker transport but necessitating the making of better roads. This method has undoubtdly come to stay.

During this period the activities of tne Forest Utilization Officer were concentrated on arranging supplies of timber for defence purposes, the normal functions of the forest Utiliztion Officer being curtailed to a large extent. From February 1940 to September 1942, the Forest Utilization Officer acted, on not only as an agent of the Government of India for

for organising and purchase of supplies of timber for defence purposes, but also was entrusted with the work of inspection and passing such timber at railhead and its despatech to various Defence Department consignees. To carry on this work, necessary additional staff was provided, the Government of India undertaking to meet the cost of additional staff over and above the normal strength of the Forest Utilization division. Thus by September 1942, four Gazetted Officers drawn from the Madras Forest Department besides Forest Utilization Officer and Assistant Forest Utilization Officer, three Rangers, four Foresters and about 60 Timber Inspectors, were temporarily employed on the work of inspection, passing and despatch of timber for the army.

Consequent on the fall of Burma and the Andamans into Japanes hands, early in 1942, considerable increased military and naval demands for timber were placed on this Presidency during 1942-43. With a view to obtain maximum production and to co-ordinate passing and despatch of timber, it was decided to create a Timber Supply Circle under the Forest Utilization Officer, with powers to control production and supply of timber for defence purposes not only from Madras Presidency but also ~~for~~ from Travancore and Cochin States. The Timber Supply Circle, Madras was actually formed on 19-9-1942 with five supply divisions with the necessary Gazetted and non-gazetted staff.

Forest Utilization Officer and Officer-in-charge
Timber Supply Circle
Senior Supply Officer
Assistant Forest Utilization Officer and Timber Supply Officer, Madras.
Timber Supply Officer, Kallai.
Timber Supply Officer, Cannanore.
Timber Supply Officer, Trichur.
Timber Supply Officer, Trivandrum.

Each of the five Supply divisions had a Range Officer attached to it, seven Foresters, subsequently increased to nine, sixty Inspectors subsequently increased to one hundred and twenty ~~if~~ five and twenty seven Office clerks, all employed on a temporary baiss, the whole cost of the Circle being met by the Governemth of India from the date of formation of Timber Supply Circle. The Forest Utilization Officer was given a Special allowance of Rs.150/- per month and all gazetted staff Rs.100/- per month. Range Officers were given a special allowance of Rs.30/- per month and foresters a total of Rs.70/- per month. Timber Inspectors were initially recruited on a baisc salary of Rs.30/- per month, and a later subdivided into 3 grades according to merit e.g. First grade on Rs.50/- per month; second grade on Rs.40/- per month and third grade on Rs.30/- per month. The above staff continued to be employed till the cessation of hostilities in August 1945.

On the termination of the war and curtailment of orders the temporary staff of the Circle was retrenched slowly and by 31-3-46 only the minimum staff required for the Kallai division remained. These were also abolished on 31-3-1947.

A retired Conservator was appointed on Special duty with effect from 8-6-1944 to survey and assess the damage done to Government and private forests by over-exploitation to meet war demands and to draw up plans to repair the damage. He continued till the end of February 1946 and Sri M. Kesavan Unni Nayar, Personal Assistant to the Chief Conservator of Forests was in Charge of the work till the end of March 1946 The work was carried out by the working plans Conservator

and Deputy Conservator of Forests on Special duty and it was finished by the end of 1946-47. Investigation of the planting of casuarina in Madura was made by a Deputy Conservator and the same work in Trichinopoly and Guntur divisions by two Assistant Conservators. Casuarina research in Nellore was done by an Assistant Conservator. A Deputy Conservator of Fo ests was posted on special duty for the afforestation of the areas in the banks of the Hagari and the Thungabhadra during 1945-46 and a total area of 2108 acreas was afforested till the end of March 1946. An area of 323 acreas was planted in the casuarina division, Guntur during 1945-46.

7.Timber market; The major portion of the period under review covers the war years viz., September 1939 to May 1945. The major timber divisions in this Province contributed their maximum quota in the matter of supply of timbers in tthe form of logs, sleepers, hutting materials, ballies etc. Towards works connected with war efforts. The materials required were indented for from time to time by the Forest Utilization Officer Madras according to the instructions from the Government of India in the Supply Department. Large timber areas were felled in advance of the prescriptions of the Working Plan to cope with the very heavy demand.

In 1939-40 prices for all timber species marketed were low. In 1940-41 the Government auctions were well-attended owing to the demand for timber for war purposes and the prices obtained in the auctions were satisfactory. At the end of this year the prices rose steeply owing to speculative buying on the West Coast Timber market in anticipation of heavy military and naval demands. With a view to obtaining timber for war purposes at a reasonable price it was found necessary to control all rail and seamovement of timber from the controlled area on the West Cost i.e., from Mangalore to Cochin and the whole of Travancore State. Government under the Defence of India Rules declared it illegal to move timber by rail or sea from the controlled area without a permit issued by or under the authority of the Forest Utilization Officer. The Kerala Timber Supply Corporation consisting of prominent timber merchants of Malabar was formed in 1942. All defence indents for private timber were placed on this Corporation only at reasonable rates. The Corporation was entitled to a commission of 1 anna per c.ft. plus 1½% advalorem on all orders exceuted by it and all timber merchants were compelled to sell timber of military specifications to it. In 1943 a similar Corporation called the Timber and Trading Company, was formed in the Baliapatam area and in 1944 a thir Corporation called the Kenara Timber Corporation was formed in South Kanara to canalise supplies from this district. All teak and hard-wood logs extracted departmentally from Government forests were reserved for the Defence Department, the rates for the supply being based on 1940-41 auction rates plus only the increase in costs of extraction and transport annually. Although the Forest Utilization Officer was authorized under the Defence of India Rules to requisition timber required for defence purposes it was not found necessary to exercise this ~~au-th~~ authority except in a few cases, as the timber merchants soon realised that the schedule of prices annually compiled by the Forest Utilization Officer in consultation with them wqs sufficiently generous to provide the necessary incentive to increased production.

1943-44. The Control measures for movement of timber continued to be operative throughout the year. Some leakages of t mber through canals and waterways had to be stopped by resort to requisitioning of timber under the Defence of India Act.

1944-45. Control measures continued to work satisfactorily in the controlled areas on the west coast.

1945-46. With the cessation of hostilities during this year the Government of India formulated new proposals for future supplies of timber repuired by tne Central Government from this Presidency for their civil essential needs by issuing Purchase Orders against individual demands of the Central Government sponsored Departments and Railways. The control over movement of timber by rail and sea from the controlled area on the West Coast continued to function satisfactorily during the year.

Timber supplied for Defence Purpose

Statement showing the annual progress of supply of timber for defence purposes during the period under review is appended from which it will be seen that peak figures were reached during 1944-45. Madras had the distinction of supplying the largest amount of sawn timber from private forests at the lowest prices. The aim of the Supply Department, Government of India, while creating the Timber Supply Circle, Madras in 1942 was that this circle should try to supply a target figure of 10,000 tons per annum for the army and the actual supplies made in 1942-43 and subsequent years till the cessation of hostilities will go to show that the Timber Supply Circle acquitted itself creditably by the steady progress made and more than justified the expectations of the Government of India. Not only was this Circle able to supply timber worth about 1.5 to 2 crores of rupees annually, but the cost of inspection of timber to the control Government did not exceed 6 to 7 pies per c.ft.

Normal functons of Forest Utilization Officer:-

As al ready stated, the Normal functions of the Forest Utilization Officer had to be curtailed to the absolute minimum from 1942 as all the staff was fully engaged in the work of supplying timber for the army. But some of the important normal duties of the Forest Utilization Officer were not neglected especially supply of treack and special size sleepers to the Railway.

Supply of Track sleepers to the South Indian Railway.

The following figures will show the number of sleepers supplied by the Madras Forest Department to the South Indian Railway during each of these years.

Year.	Broad Guage.		Meter Gauge			
	B.G.No.	B.G.rate per sleeper. Rs.	M.G. No.	Rate per sleeper. Rs.	A	P
1939-40	30000	6--0--0	17000	2	12	0
1940-41	29456	6--0--0	17209	2	12	0
1941-42	15666	7--0--0	10103	3	8	0
1942-43	4187	7--0--0	3395	3	8	0
1943-44	14365	10--0--0	6041	4	8	0
1944-45 (Arrears of 1943 44)	20678	-do-	9548		-do-	
1945-46	8205	14--0--0	2243	7	0	0

Special Size Sleepers to the South Indian Railway.

During the period under review, suply of special size sleeprs to the South Indian Railway was not regularly undertaken. In 1939-40 the South Indian Railway did not accept the tender for test special size sleepers but the Department concluded a contract for the sale of 60000Ø c.ft. of teak logs to the successful contractors with the South Indian Railway. Finding that private contractors could not supply teak special size sleepers regularly the Railway accepted the tneder for the supply of 10000 teak special size sleepers in 1940-41 and actually placed orders for 9771 sleepers which conld be completed only by September 1941 owing to difficulty in obtaining sawing facilities on the West Coast. Similarly in 1941-42, the department undertook to supply 4007 teak special size sleepers and could complete it only the the end of 1942 owing to the difficulty of securing sawmilling facilities in the West Coast as all mills were fully engaged on Army work. No further contracts were undertaken in subsequent years for want of sufficient teak, as all teak supplies were required for defence purposes. The Railways were advised to purchase from trade, special size sleepers cut from hardwoods of acceptable species.

Supplies of wooden poles for use by the Electricity Dept.

931 wooden ploes 28'-30' long in accordance with the specifications of Electiricity Department were supplied in 1939-40. By successful negotiation with the Electricity Department in relaxing the rigidity of specification for wooden poles, the department agreed to supply 2000 creosoted poles of teak, poon, pali, Vayal, Mesua and Pine in 1940-41 to the Electricity Department, the poles being treated by an open tank creaosoting plant erected by this Department at the Forest College Estate, Coimbatore. On actual working it was found that the rate of Rs.20/- per pole charged to the Electricity Department after treatment was not profitable, the question of rate at which creosoted poles to be supplied in 1941-42 was re-examined and the ~~the~~ rate raised to Rs.25/- per pole. In 1941-42 1453treated poles were supplied to the Electricity Department of which 1372 were treated in the open tank with a mixure of creosote and fuel oil 50 : 50 by volume, the remaining 81 poles, were treated under pressure with Ascu solution, the Ascu plant originally crected by the Electricity Department at Coimbatore having been transforred to the Forest Department during the year.

Due to international Situation, the Electricity Department curtailed its normal extension programmes; only 200 treated poles were indented for during 1942-43 and they were supplied. The creosoting plant was closed temporarily in January 1943. There were no supplies of wooden ~~plo~~ poles in subsequent years.

8. Overseas trade -- Nil

9. Minor Forest Produce: During the period under review Forest Utilization Division organised sales of honey collected departmentally, retail sale of sandalwood and lac products through sale agents appointed for the purpose in Madras City and in the moffussil areas. Owing to the difficulty of securing chemical ingredients and containers during the war, activities in this direction had to be severely curtailed.

During the first half of the period the Division helped several trade enquiries for Minor Forest products and actually Supplied a few indentors; most important are supply of Gum Kine, Gum Karaya (Sterculia urens). The Superintendent, Kerala Soap Institute was supplied with raw materials for manufacture of flower essences and vegetable tallow and also oil seeds like Garcinia moralla, Pongamia glabara, Vateria indica, Pallagirum eliptica, Mesua ferrea and Mimuseps elengi.

Lac: Departmental cultivation in the Cumbum range, Madura divison and in Salem North division were continued. The Kusum lac produced in the Cumbum valley was much in demand as scrapped lac and seed lac. The creps at Cumbum were unforunately poor during the period under review. There was no difficulty in disposing of the scraped lac and seed lac obtained from each crop at a profit.

The lac produced on Shorea in North Salem was of inferior quality and most of it was converted into Polich, varnish, Shellac, button lac and sealing wax in the experimental lac factory at Denkanikota and sold as such.

Pyrethrum cultivation:

Departmental cultivation of Pyrethrum was under-taken both in the Nilgiris and the Madura divisions. It was grown over 1400.9 acres in 1943-44 and 466.6 acres in 1944-45 in the Nilgiris and over an area of 525 acres in the palni Hills of Madura division. Almost the entire output was supplied to the Medical Store Depottment. The Pyrethrum contents of the flower compares favourably with the results obtained from Kenya and Japanese flowers. The cultivation was carried out at considerable financial loss. The Government have decided that the cultivation of Pyrethrum should be discontinued in the Palnis and that such cultivation should be continued only in the Nilgiris, limited to such area as would provide sufficient quantity of dry pyrethrum flowers to meet the requirements of this province and no more.

Wattle: The cultivation of wattle on an increase scale was undertaken in Madura division as the supply of bark from South Africa has been cut off due to the severance of Trade relations with that country. This species grows well in the Nilgiris and Palnis and if the tanure contents of the locally grown wattle justify the extension of these plantations, it is anticipated that the Province can be made self sufficient in this respect in a decade or two

Exploitation: The quantity of timber extracted by departmental agency from reserved forests was 31,500 tons in 1938-39 and 27,600 tons in 1945-46. The total yield of timber and fuel from reserved forests by all agencies was 262,288 tons in 1938-39 and 550,518 tons, in 1945-46. The quantity of timber alone extracted from reserved forests by all agencies increased from 65,800 tons in 1938-39 to 83,780 tons in 1945-46.

The increase in outturn under timber and fuel was due to more intensive exploitation of the forests to meet the urgent war demands and also to meet the needs of civil population for firewood.

II.Forest Panchayats: The area under panchayat management in 1945-46 was 3,024 sq. miles and against 3,242 square miles in 1938-39. The decrease is mainly due to the retransfer of denuded forests to the Forest Department for restoration. The hill village system continued tobe in operation in the Malayalee hill villages of North Arcot and Salem districts. The forest village system was in operation only in one reserve (Thonkahola Reserve) in Karkal Range and the Panchayat continued to x work satisfactorily.

12.Silviculture

Regeneration Mainly Natural: Both in the timber and fuel forests, natural regeneration was satisfactory. In gaps caused by selection fellings natural regeneration was good and in felled fuel coupes coppice regeneration was satisfactory. Sandal regeneration was satisfactory in its favourate localities.

p.t.o.

Regeneration - Mainly artificial: Timber forests; As in the past the timber forests were worked mainly under the clear folling and selection systems.

Clearfelling: The clearfelled coupes were regenerated partly by the Department and partly by the kumri method, mainly with teak. As a goneral rule regeneration was by stump planting .

Fuel forests: The fuel forests were, as usual, clear-felled under the simple coppice system. Coppice growth in felled coupes deteriorates in course of time and natural regeneration is sometimes inadequate. To supplament such stocking, regeneration by the Kumari method has been encouraged and every effort is being made to poplarise it. As yet, however regeneration by kumri forms a very small percentage of the are felled.

With a view to meet the great demand for casuarina fuel especially from Madras city casuarina plantations were undertaken on a regular programme. The total area planted in the several divisions was 2,920 acres in 1944-45 and 5,212 acres in 1945-46.

Artificial regeneration of sandalwood in small centres by propagation in beats and under bushes continued. The results obtained were fair.

Afforestation: The large scale planting of casuarina on a regular programme is a big item of afforestation. Afforestation of Kurnool, Cuddapah canal bank was undertaken during the period in Cuddapah North division. The work was started in 1942-43 and by the by the end of the period under report about 7 miles of the 10 miles experimental length of the canal banks were planted up. The result was not disappointing.

Planting carried out on the banks of the Hagari and Tungabhadra rivers (Bellary district) is also an item of afforestation. Casuarina planting was also undertaken in Guntur.

Tending: In the timber forests tending was done accordin to the preseriptions of the working Plan.

13. Changes in the Area: The areas of reserved forests and reserved lands at the end of 1938-39 and at the end of 1945-46 are combared below:

	At the end of 1938-39 Sq.Miles.	At the end of 1945-46 Sq. miles.
Reserved Forests	18,497	18,776
Reserved lands.	186	37
	18,683	18,813

Of the area of 18,776 sq. miles of reserved forests an area of 15,408 square miles are protective and remunerative forests. 15,406 sq. miles are under the control of the Forest Department and 2 sq. miles under the control of the P.W.D. An area of 3,368 sq. miles are ryots forests, 3024 sq. miles in the hands of the forest panchayats under the control of the Revenue Department, 339 sq. miles under control of the Forest Department and 5 sq. miles under the management of Adoni Municipality.

The increase in the area of reserved forests is mainly due to the Rampa blocks in the Godavari lower division having been notified as reserved forest under Section 16 during the period.

14. Forest Settlement: The reservation of Rampa blocks--105 sq. miles in extent was finally notified under section 16. Small areas in the several divisions of Salem South division (Arama block) and Coimbatore North Division (Palamalai Extension block) the Nilgiris division (Mukeri lake), Chittoor, Cuddapah South and Salem North were also notified under Section 16.

Settlement operations were in progress in respect of 5.57 sq. miles.

15. Demaracation: The total length of artificially marked boundaries at the end of 1945-46 was 21096 miles as against 20626 miles at the end of 1938-39. The increase is chiefly due to the new demarcation done in the agency forests of Godavari Lower Division where areas were notified under Section 16 during the period.

16. Survey: The Madras Survey Party completed the varification of :--

1. the resurvey sketches of forest foads in Palakonda Range in Vizagapatam division.
2. Resurvey sketches of the villages of Bointi and Burma Reserved Forsts of Vizagapatam division.
3. the survey of the District boundary line to a distance of 18½ miles between Cuddapah and Anantapur ~~with~~ which passes through Gorivikanama Reserved Forest in Cuddapah North Division.

The Madras Surgey Party under took the resurvey of the Southern boundary of the Karimpuzha Reserved Forest, Nilembur division and a portion of the work was completed during 1945-46.

17. Working Plans: The area covered by the working Plans has increased from 13,689 sq. miles at the end of 1938-39to 13,755 sq. miles at the end of 1945-46. The Working Plans for Godavari Lower Division ecluding Rampa completed by the Working Plan staff has been revised by the District Forest Officer in the light of certain remarks and is pending orders of the Chief Conservator of Forests. The Working Plans for Rampa Agency is under preparation by the District Forest Officer. The reconnassance report was prepared and orders passed thereon. It has been ordered that the plan should lie over till the reconstitution of the Working Plans Circle (since recontituted from 9th June 1947).

The abnormal demand for firewood for civil, military and industrial necessitatedconsiderable fellings in advance of Working Plan programmes. To compensate for the advance fellings and to provide more firewood for future years, a policy of large scale casuarina planting has been pursued. In furtherance of this policy, forests managed by Panchayats in Nellore and Chingleput division suitable for casuarina plantations were resumed by the Department. The periods of several Working Plans having expired, action has been taken to extend them for 5 years ponding revision by the Working Plans Conservator.

Working Plans for the following divisions were revised or sanctioned during the period:--

South Kanara division (The forests of the division were previously worked under the provisions of two separate working plans)

Wynaad division, Nilambur Division, Nilgiris Division and Palghat division.

P.T.O.

The Chief Conservator scrutinized all Working Plans, Control records were scrutinized by the Territorial Conservators. Periodical reviews were issued by the Chief Conservator of Forests.

18. Communications and buildings:

The average annual expenditure on communications and buildings and other works during the quinquennium ending 1938-39 and a period of 4 years ending 1945-46 were as follows:--

Year.	Roads and Communications		Buildings.		Other works.	
	Capital Rs.	Repairs. Rs.	Capital Rs.	Repairs. Rs.	Capital Rs.	Repairs Rs.
Average for the period from 1934-35 to 38-39	35,080	97,948	25,325	59,886	3,097	3,548
1939-40	51,748	98,463	17,473	50,867	4,503	3,296
1940-41	28,738	90,176	7,384	48,460	1,337	3,707
1941-42	40,804	109,946	7,352	42,083	1,029	,661
1942-43) 1943-44) 1944-45)	Annual return suspended for the duration of the War.					
1945-46	55,175	251,188	37,754	82,952	1,235	13,706
	176,465	549,773	69,963	224,352	8,104	27,370
Average for four years.	44,116	137,443	17,766	56,088	2,026	6,842

There was a marked increase under Roads and Bridges due to the large number of road works undertaken for exploiting forests hitherto inaccessible.

The period under review was the war period. During this period only important and urgent works connected with the transport of timber for war purposes were unndertaken. These were ~~maily~~ mainly construction and improvement of roads. By constructing these roads several inaccessible areas were opened up and extraction of timber and fuel from those areas considered to be inaccessible hitherto, were made possible. Quicker transport by engaging lorries was another great advantage derived by constructing these roads, as other means of transport would not have been possible to meet the ever increasing demands of war. The works had always to be executed with speed in order to facilitate transport to meet these pressing demands for timber and fuel for war purposes.

There was very disadvantage and difficulty in the execution of works owing to the continued deterioration in the economic conditions brought about by war. Labour was scarce and was very unwilling to stay on in hilly malarial tracts wherein all the works in he Forest Engineering division are located. Coolies had to be paid much higher wages than they were paid in pre-war years. Materials had to be purchased at abnormally high prices and sometimes these were also not available. Food problems had to be tackled and arragements for the supply of food materials to the large labour force employed on various works had to be looked after continuously to keep the labour on the works. Due to all these difficulties, the rates for the works according to programme and in time.

With the termination of hostilities on all the fronts in 1945, large and important post-war schemes had to be taken up by the Forest Engineering division. One of such outstanding shheme was the extension and improvement of road system in Javadis in Vellore West and East division of Salem Circle formulated to facilitate transport of fuel extracted from forests in the Javadi hills to various important towns and cities like Vellore, Madras, etc. The scheme consisted of constructing new roads and improving the existing ones. The estimated cost of the scheme is Rs.3,35,900/- exeluding the cost of the apecial staff sanctioned for the work. Another big scheme under post war reconstruction taken up was in connection with the investigation and preparation of estimates for constructing a road from Mount Stuart to Ulandi (Palacadavu) in Coimbatore South division which, if constructed, would facilitate tapping of certain rich timber areas in that division and also converting the area by planting with teak. Similar investigation in Nilambur and Wynaad divisions also had to be taken up..

The number of works carried out by the Forest Engineer during the period was 120. The number of works in respect of which the Forest Engineer's advice was sought and executed during the period was 106.

19. Forest Offences: The average annual number of Forest offences for a period of 4 years ending 1945-46 was 29,345 against 27,965 during the previous quinquennium as shown below:-

Year	Injury to forests by fire.	Unauthorised fellings.	Unauthorised grazing.	Other offences	Total.
rage for the iod from 1934-35 to 1938-39.	1,405	20,376	4,104	2,080	27,965
1939-40	1,114	23,782	4,148	2,177	31,221
1940-41	1,147	23,110	3,875	1,797	29,929
1941-42	1,511	23,628	3,657	1,764	30,560
1942-43) 1943-44) 1944-45)	Annual return suspended for the duration of the war.				
1945-46	1,044	19,810	2,904	1,913	25,671.
	4,816	90,330	14,584	7,651	117,381
Average for four years.	1,204	22,582	3,646	1,913	29,345

There was an increase under unauthorised fellings and it is attributed to greater vigilence on the part of the subordinates in detecting cases and also to surprise inspections by District Forest Officers and Range Officers. But it is probable that the higher value of forest produce owing to war conditions tended to increase forest crimes.

20. Fire Protection:

The areas attempted to be protected, areas burnt and areas actually protected during 1938-39 and 1945-46 are compared

	Area attempted to be protected. sq.miles.	Area burnt, sq.miles.	Area actually protected. sq. miles.
1938-39	14,965	1,091	13,864
1945-46	15,493	1,029	14,464

p.t.o.

Fire protection works were continued as usual with no marked increase or decrease in the number of fires of areas burnt during the period. The expenditure during 1945-46 was Rs.47,692 against Rs.30,931. The increase is mainly due to rise in the wages of labour.

21. Protection from cattle: 10.71 per cent of departmental forest was closed to grazing at the end of 1945-46 against 11.20 per cent at the end of 1938-39. The number of animals permitted to graze on payment in resorved forests and reserved lands increased from 2,557,539 in 1938-39 to 2,563,874 (1,825,805 animals in the departmental and 738,069 animals in panchayat forests) in 1945-46.

22. Yield and outturn. The following statement shows the average annual outturn of the forests for the two periods:--

Period.	Timber in thousands of C.ft.	Fuel in thousands of C.Ft.	Bamboos Value.	Minor Forest Produce Value.
			Rs.	Rs.
1934-35 to 1938-39	3,494	17,817	3,89,873	5,53,819
1939-40 to 1945-46	4,166	32,718	6,29,999	5,70,634.

The large increase in the output of timber is due to the vast supplies made to the Defence Department both by departmental extraction and through contractors; also the Western India Match Factory removed large quantities of softwoods for match industry after the fall of Burma and Andamans. The increase in he output of fuel is also attributable to the conditions created by the War. There was greater demand for bamboos and minor forest produce during the war. The sale of Pyrethrum flowers to the Madical stores Depot,, Madras mainly accounts for the increase under minor produce.

23. Financial results:- The annual financial figures of the period under report are:--

	Rs. Revenue	Rs. Expenditure	Rs. Surplus
Average for the Period from 1934-35 to 1938-39.	4,479,172	40,20,187	458,984
1939-40	42,91,829	38,56,501	4,35,327
1940-41	46,34,567	37,35,903	8,98,664
1941-42	48,91,402	36,55,578	12,35,824
1942-43	69,77,674	49,66,868	20,10,806
1943-44	112,99,943	79,86,901	33,13,042
1944-45	140,74,827	81,48,016	59,26,811
1945-46	140,12,541	76,39,884	63,72,657
~~Total~~ Total	6,01,82,782	3,99,89,651	201,93,131
Average.	85,97,540	57,12,807	28,84,733

The surplus revenue rose gradually during the period under report. It was at its peak in 1945-46. The increase in revenue was due to the realisation of the value of large amounts of timber etc. to the Supply Department which also entailed increase in expenditure. Better prices were also realised for various kinds of forest produce due to war conditions. The increase in expenditure, year after year, was due to additional work undertaken by working additional areas for supply of timber and firewood and payment of dearness allowance and war allowance to all Government servants. Cultivation of Pyrethrum also contributed to the increase in expenditure. The graphs appended illustrate the financial position of the department for the year 1940-41 to 1945-46.

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24. Forest education: Officers: The four direct recruits deputed for the Superior Service course 1944-46 at Dehra Dun completed the course successfully. The recruits were deputed for the 1945-47 course at Dehra Dun.

Of the four recruits selected for 1946-48 course three a are undergoing training at Dehra Dun. One direct recruit was deputed for overseas training in Forestry at Edinburgh.

Rangers: All the fourteen direct recruits who were deputed to the Rangers' course at Dehra Dun for 1943-45 and 1944-46 course, have returned. Five direct recruits deputed for 1945-47 course at Dehra Dun. Thirty five Foresters deputed for 1945-47 course for training at the Madras Forest College newly opened on 1st October 1945 the course to end by June 1947.

Forest Guards' Schools: In 1939, in Godavari Lower division and in 1942 in Kurnool West division a telegu Forest Guard's School for Bellary and Salem Circles was held. From 1943 onwards the school was conducted annually in Godavari Lower division.

A telegu session of Forest Guards School was conducted in Cuddapah North division for 6 months from 1-9-1940 and 1 Forester and 29 Forest Gurards were trained. 5 Telugu knowing subordinates were deputed and trained during 1945-46 in the Flrest Guards' School held in Lower Godavari division at Cocanada.

During the period under review six sessions for the Forest Guards School were held in Coimbatore South division. The period of training was from October to March every year from the year 1940-41 to 1945-46. 149 students weretrained, of whom 23 were Foresters and 126 Forest Guards. The Headquarters of the school were Sothumadai, and they camped at Topaslip of the South Coimbatore division at Hassanur in Coimbatore North Division.

Two Forest Guards' Schools were held during the period one for training Canarese candidates in Soth Kanara division in 1941-42 which trained 34 subordinates and the other for training Malayalam candidates in Nilambar division in 1942-43 which trained 30 subordinates.

25. Hill tribes: The Forest Department continued to look after the Jungle tribes living in the forests. They were provided with employment and were alletted land on lease for Kumari cultivation free of assessment. In the Agency areas of the Be lary Circle the hill tribes continued to enjoy the concession of free removal of forest produce for demestic and agricultural pruposes, free grazing and free hunting and in Godavari Upper Division free podu cultivation in unreserves. In return for these concessions they are expected protect the forests from fire and supply labour for forest works for which they are paid full wages. They are also employed by forest contractors.

Chenchus of Nallamalais: The department continued to take interest in the amelioration of Chenchus as ususal by providing them with employment and land for cultivation. Education with free clothing and boarding was as usual given to the chenchu children.

The agricultural headmen and Deputy headmen employed in some of the Chenchu gudems for imparting instruction to the Chenchus rendered as useful assistance to the Chenchus in cultivation.

The Chenchus, as usual collected the customary fees from the pilgrims visiting the Srisailam temple in return for protecting their person and preperty, and thansporting their goods.

P.T.O.

The Chenchu Co-operative parechase and Sale Society at Atmakur for the Kurnool West division worked satisfactorily during the period.

The chenchu hospital at Pecheruvu continued to function and many chenchus received medical aid.

The Hill Village system was in force in the Vellore East and West and Salem division under it the Malayalis protected the sandalwood forests from theft and fire in return for the grant of grazing concessions and rewards.

Two elementary schools for the benefits of Malayalee Children were opened for the first time on 7-7-45 in the hills--one at Kuttathur in Chengam Javadis and another at Pudur in Tirupattur Javadis. The schools are under the control of the Forest Department assisted by the Education Department in their management.

The only jungle tribe in Cuddapah South division is the Yenadis. Some of them are employed as Forest Guards and Forest Watchers.

The Hill tribes in Kollegal, Coimbatore North and South Division were granted rent free leases of land for cultivation.

The hill tribes in all division in Ootacamund Circle were allowed free removal of forest Produce for their agricultural and domestic purposes and to graze their cattle free in reserved forests, in return for which they supplied labour on payment for departmental works and helped the staff in the protection of forests from fire.

In Palghat Division there were twenty settlements of the Irulars at the close of the period against 24 at the beginning of it. Three settlements vacated on account of Military occupation of the settlements in Bolampatti range and one left of its own accord. Since the Military have vacated the areas efforts are taken to bring the Irulars back to their homes.

26. Wild life: Much attention continued to be given to the presefvation of wild Life, but there is reason to believe that the army did not scrupulously obey the game rules.

Illicit peaching in Salem North has been minimised to a large extent as a result of stiffening of control.

22 27. Labour: After the outbreak of the war there was acute searcity of labour and cooly wages have risen continuously and are still rising.

STATEMENT SHOWING THE QUANTITY AND VALUE OF TIMBER AND BAMOOS SUPPLED TO THE ARMY BY THE FOREST UTILISATION DIVISION AND TIBER SUP.LY CIRCLE; MADRAS FROM 1939-40 to 1945-46.

1939-40 Timber = 4500 tons. 1940-41 Timber 27990 tons. 1941-42 Timber 21300 tons.
Bamboos Nos. = 120000 Plywood beards 160000 sq-ft-
tatties.
Tent poles. 5400

	Tons.	1942-43 Value Rs.	Tons.	1943-44 Value Rs.	Tons	1944-45 Value Rs.	Tons.	1945-46 Value Rs.
1. Teak legs	11761	13,66,231	14695	21,48,907	13795	20,86,433	6622	10,39,469
2. Rosewood legs.	...	..	661	1,03,897	1031	1,85,371	241	48,357
3. Hardwood legs.	1650	1,39,815	22598	17,07,516	30914	28,15,586	26699	24,90,315
4. Sleepers and blecks Nos.	16534	12,82,144	-..	5,27,415	264591	16,53,043	103694	7,05,965
5. Sawn timber	33905	38,20,178	65319	78,55,928	69410	77,94,569	66452	76,88,655
6. Ballies and telegraph poles nos.	70741	62,000	552981	4,86,078	...	12,31,721	...	12,06.544
7. Bamboos, Nos.	...	...	819486	1,63,556	...	15,67,224	...	3,322
8. Bamboox mats sq.feet.	...	...	8922060	sq-ft- 155755	...	...	...	...
9. Tent poles Nos.	...	...	8659	3681	...	66,666	...	...
10. Tetty piles.	...	...	...	...	...	3,64,411	...	90,054
		66,70,368		131,51,733		177,65,024		134,72,672

sd. . . . .
~~For Chief Conservator of~~
for Chief Conservator of Forests.

Development Department.

Letter Ms.No.4548 dated 22-9-47.

To

The Economic and Statistical Adviser,
Department of Agriculture,
New Delth. (with encl.)

Sir

Sub:- Quinquennial reviews of forest in British India.
Ref:- This department letter No.23515C/47 dated 4-9-47.

I am directed to enclose a paragraph on Research for inclusion in the Summary of progress of forest administration in the province of Madras during the seven years 1939-40 to 1945-46, forwarded with my letter cited above.

Yours obedient servant,
sd. . . .
17-9-47

To the Chief Conservator of Forest.

RESEARCH.

The various items of research work mentionedin the provinus quinquennium report was continued as far as possible consistent with economy necessitated by war conditions. Great care was taken not to open new experiments.

2. Several enquiries have been received not only from the officers of the department but also from outsiders in the and out of India. Large quantity of seed was supplied against foreigh indents.

3. Special attention was paid for the regeneration of fuel species, softwood suitable for plywood, Pyrethrum for insecticide and casuarina for fuel.

4. The Fifth Sylvicultural Conference was held at Dehra Dun in November 1939 and was attended by the Provincial Silviculturist and the District Forest Officer, Nilambur. The Research Ranger, Denkanikota was deputed to the Forest Research Institue, Dehra Dun to study the entomology of the spike disease in sandal and to Ranchi to learn the manufacture of lac products by recent methods.

5. Rab and Taungya methods have received further study.

6. The Central Silviculturist and the Assistant Soil Chemist from Forest Research Institute, Dehra Dun visited Nilamour and started investigations on the soil chnges that occur by clear felling and burning forests on potentially laterite soils preparatory to planting of teak and discussed the subject in detail with the Provincial Silviculturist and the District Forest Officer, Nilamour and the Conservator of Forests, Ootacamund Circle.

7. More attention was diverted to the artifical regeneration of species suitable for fuel and charcoal.

8. Imporvements in method and design for the conservation of moisture in dry fuel forests have beendone and are promising. Valuable work was also done in Coimbatore North division in Contour trenching and bunding of gullies as mesures of Water and Soil conservation.

P.T.O.

9. Lac Polishes, varnishes and other lac products were manufactured and supplied mainly to Government departments and military contractors and small quantities were also supplied to local bodies and the general public.

10. The Silviculturist's division devoted a considerable time in organising selection formation sowing and care of about 80 acres of pyrethrum-nurseries in the Nilgiris and urgent war work of great magnitude and prime importance. The required number of plants was supplied for the very large scale plantations by the Pyrethrum staff over 1700 acres.

11. Very valuable idea have resulted from discussion with the Silviculturist, Bombay during his visit here and these ideas will be put into practive wen money is available for the expansion of Research. Money spent on silvicultural research is a justifiable investment which will yield good returns in the shape of successful plantation.

sd.

For Chief Conservator of Forests

/True Copy/

R. Thiagarajan 13.3.56

Office Assistant,
Madras Record Office.

12.3.56